**A service of Holy Communion at Christmas Time**

**St Peter’s Church, Maney**

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**Welcome**

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

**Prayer of Preparation**

**Almighty God,**

**to whom all hearts are open,**

**all desires known,**

**and from whom**

**no secrets are hidden:**

**cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**

**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**

**that we may perfectly love you,**

**and worthily magnify your holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Confession**

*The president introduces a time of confession*

Lord of grace and truth,

we confess our unworthiness

to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call

to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour

was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks

to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star

to find Jesus the King.

Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

**Absolution**

*The president offers a prayer of forgiveness from God*

**Christmas candle**

*The candles are lit and a prayer is said.*

**The Gloria**

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

**Collect**

**Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

Glory to you, O Lord.

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Creed

Though he was divine,

he did not cling to equality with God,

but made himself nothing.

Taking the form of a slave,

he was born in human likeness.

He humbled himself

and was obedient to death,

even the death of the cross.

Therefore God has raised him on high,

and given him the name above every name:

that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bow,

and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

*Responses:*

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*at the end:*

**Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,**

**you know us and love us,**

**you share our lives and hear our prayer. Glory to you for ever. Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

and also with you.

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

Word made flesh, life of the world,

in your incarnation you embraced our poverty: by your Spirit may we share in your riches. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

*The president praises God’s mighty acts, we respond:*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth

are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The president recalls the Last Supper…*

Great is the mystery of faith,

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Prayer continues, ending…*

…for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

We break the bread of life,

and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,**

**light in the midst of us,**

**bring us to light and life.**

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

**Lord, give us this bread always.**

**Giving of Communion**

*Please receive your bread at the same time as the priest. For those not receiving today, there will be a blessing at the end of communion.*

**Prayer after Communion**

**Blessing**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.